INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Chang

Political Information: General MA Chan-shan's Interview with the Generalisaimo

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Until early December 1946, General NA Chan-shan was still optimistic about the resubility of his setting an acceptable appointment (previously reported) from the Central Government which would allow him to proceed to Manchuria and restore order to whatever portion of the Northeast CUIANG Kai-shek saw fit to assign to him. However, on about 10 December he received a telegram from CH'EN Ch'eng concerning MA's own special troops, which MA feels were primarily responsible for helding Tatung (112-14, 40-06) against the Chinese Communists in the Fall of 1946. These troops, which have traditionally belonged to MA for many years are loyal to him and consider him "their" general just as he considers them "his" troops. They were about 20,000 men organized into the two divisions of the "Fortheast Advance Gorps", which were generally considered (certainly by KA and his followers) to be the units which would accompany MA in his expected return to l'anchuria to organize his irregular forces (previously reporter). CH'EN's telegram informed KA that his two divisions were to be reorganized into two cavalry brigades and would be turned over to FU Tso-yi. (The former division commanders would still command the brigades.) LA was surprised and angered at the unexpected move, and decided to go to Manking immediately.

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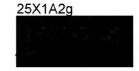
On 19 December MA flew to Manking, registered at the Generalissimo's Headquarters, and requested an interview with CHTATG Kai-shek. CHTATG at first refused to see M4, but after five days of silence and upon a more insistent request by MA, he Tave MA an audience on the sixth day. MA was greated without cordiality, and he could tell by CHIANG's "extremely unpleasant" look that he was not velcome.

CHIANG immediately teld MA that he should have come earlier and then asked why had not gone back to Manchuria. MA replied that if CHIANG referred to MA's Sarrointment to be a deputy of TU Yu-ming, the appointment was not satisfactory and that he did not feel that as one of the many deputies of TU that he could work effectively. MA then said that he was not concerned about the size of a territory assigned to him, but that he wanted to be fully responsible for what occured there; he then requested that the Generalissimo assign him even a very small rortion of the Northeast, an area where freedom of action and full responsibility for that action would be KA's, with responsibility not to TU but to Nanking. CHIANG did not reply to this. Then MA asked CHIANG what his responsibilities would be as a deputy. Ma said he wanted to be assigned definite work for which he could be fully responsible, as he had a good name in Manchuria, and that he did not want to lose it, that he must know what his mission would be, what he could tell his followers he was supposed to do. CHIANG then advised MA to go to Kukden and take

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his instructions from General HSIUMO Shih-hui, Chairman of the President's Heafquarters for the Mortheast. MA was indignant at this complete and abrupt refusal of CPIAMO to talk on any basis except that of MA's subscrination to the Kuomintans generals. He immediately left without further discussion.

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- 3. After the interview with CHIANG, EA talked with CHIEN Chieng. CHIEN said that EA had come too late, that if IA had come three months earlier, there might have been scrething for him to do. EA felt that he was insulted by the implication that he was a "job-secker".
- 4. After his conference with the Nationalist Chief of Staff, MA learned from a friend of his who had talked to one of CH*FM's close associates, of remarks which CH*LM had made after talking to MA. CH*EN had said that MA was too old and too inexperienced in modern warfare; that MA was of little value; that it was better to use a Whampoa Military Academy man who was trained in modern military techniques.
- 5. After a total of ten days in "anking, MA, angry, dispusted, and disappointed, went to Shanghai where he spent several days before he neturned by sea to Tientsin and thence to Feiping, massing through Tientsin on 22 January. He feels that his mission to Fanking and his previous attempts to converse with the Central Government have been complete failures and sees no possibility of serving the Central Government as it exists at present.



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-2-